

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-11 PRS-01 DRC-01

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----- 101826

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8581

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5258

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SA, US

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO SEPT 26-28 WASHDC AGENDA FOR
INDUSTRIALIZATION

REF STATE 192380

BEGIN SUMMARY: SAUDIS HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO ANY ITEM
ON WASHINGTON AGENDA THOUGH EMBASSY HAS CHOSEN TO ELIMINATE
ITEM 8 AND LEAVE IT FOR PERSONAL NEGOTIATION WITH MINSTATE
FINANCE. SAUDI WORKING GROUP DESIRES FURTHER INFORMA-
TION ON WHAT WE MEAN BY HIGH LEVEL SAUDI PARTICIPATION?
WHAT WILL BE LIKELY FORMAT FOR MEETING WITH AMERICAN
BUSINESS? END SUMMARY

1. SAUDI COORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC COMMISSION, DR. SULAI-
MAN SULAIM, CONFIRMED TO EMBOFFS SEPT 8 THAT AGENDA IN
REFTEL WAS PERFECTLY SATISFACTORY TO INDUSTRIALIZATION
WORKING GROUP WHICH HAD MET AND DISCUSSED IT PREVIOUS DAY.
(EMBASSY DISCUSSED INCLUSION OF ITEM 8--STAFFING OF
U.S./SAUDI COMMISSION OFFICE AND IT WAS DECIDED TO ELIMI-
NATE THIS AND LEAVE THIS FOR DIRECT/PRIVATE DISCUSSION
WITH MINISTER ABA AL-KHAIR. AGENDA ITEM OF THIS NATURE
WOULD PROBABLY RESULT IN UNREALISTIC ASSESSMENTS, AND
WORKING GROUPS ARE NO PLACE FOR DISCUSSION OF AMERI-
CAN PRESENCE.)

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2. ONLY QUESTION WAS WHAT WAS MEANT BY HIGH LEVEL

OF REPRESENTATION FROM U.S. INDUSTRY. WHAT WAS
FORMAT FOR PLANNED MEETING WITH U.S. INDUSTRY?

3. WITH REGARD TO OUR REQUEST FOR INFO ON LEVEL OF
SAUDI PARTICIPATION, DR. SULAIM SAID
THAT MOST MINISTERS COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED
AND THAT DEPUTY MINISTERS WOULD REPLACE MEMBERS
OF THE WORKING GROUP FROM THEIR MINISTRIES IF THEY
CAME. ECONCOUNS SUGGESTED THAT ONE OR TWO OF THE
KEY PEOPLE INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATING WITH AMERICAN
COMPANIES SUCH AS DR. ABDUL HADY TAHER OF PETROMIN
OR DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE, MAHMUD TAIBA, MIGHT
BE INTERESTED IN MEETING HIGHER-RANKING AMERICAN
BUSINESSPEOPLE. DR. SOLAIM SAID THAT THE MATTER
SHOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH MINSTATE MOHAMMAD ABA AL-KHAIL.
(AMBASSADOR IS MEETING THE MINISTER LATE TUESDAY,
SEPT 11, AND WILL RAISE SUBJECT WITH HIM AT THAT
TIME.)

4. SAUDI WORKING GROUP HAS ARRANGED TO STAY AT
HOLIDAY INN IN ARLINGTON. THEY HAVE ARRANGED THEIR
OWN TRANSPORTATION.
AKINS

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